



# Arizona Department of Water Resources Prescott Active Management Area

DECEMBER 2007

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## 2007—The Year in Review

Busy, eventful and winding down—2007 was an active year in the world of water, or at least the 485-square miles that make up the Prescott Active Management Area.

There was new legislation, new staff, new programs, new, well, lots of things. Keep reading to revisit the highlights.



## New Water Legislation



**SB 1557—Water; municipal conservation requirements:** Modifies ADWR's Non-per capita per day program

**SB 1312—Water storage permits; notice requirements:** Requires ADWR to post notice on its website when an application is received for an underground storage facility permit

**SB 1575—Water provisions; adequacy:** Allows counties, cities and towns to require new subdivisions that are located outside of an Active Management Area to have an adequate water supply in order for the proposed development to be approved

**HB 2484—Contamination; well impacts:** Authorizes the Director of ADWR to prohibit the drilling of a new well if it will likely result in the migration of contaminated groundwater to both exempt and non-exempt wells statewide

**HB 2488—Drought emergency groundwater transfers:** An annual session law that allows limited transfers of groundwater across basin boundaries during drought emergencies, requires approval from the Director of ADWR

**HB 2692—Water supply development revolving fund:** Establishes the Water Supply Development Fund to provide financial assistance for water supply development projects

For a summary  
of all 2007  
legislation from  
the Committee  
on Water and  
Agriculture, visit:  
[www.azleg.gov/  
alispdfs/48leg/1R  
/House/Summary  
WA.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/48leg/1R/House/SummaryWA.pdf)



## Get to Know... Daniel Timmons

Daniel Timmons is very excited about his new position as Water Resource Specialist for the Town of Chino Valley. On the job for just two months, Daniel is already working on several different projects, including the development of a water conservation code and drought plan for the Town. New water conservation education materials will soon be freely available at Town facilities thanks to Daniel's hard work.

While newly relocated to the area, Daniel is very familiar with the water resources issues of the Prescott AMA. For the past two years, Daniel attended graduate school at Northern Arizona University, working closely with the Department of Water Resources and the local communities to update the ADWR groundwater flow model for the Prescott AMA. Daniel used the model to investigate several future scenarios for the area

out to the year 2025. This work culminated in his thesis entitled "Groundwater Flow Modeling and Multiple Scenario Analysis in the Prescott AMA..." and his graduation in August 2007 with a master's degree in Environmental Sciences and Policy. He is looking forward to using this experience to help find creative solutions to the water resource challenges facing Chino Valley and the region.

"Until flowing water learns to respect our various laws and legislated boundaries, we must all work together cooperatively and regionally to find ways to meet the collective challenges facing us all."

Daniel Timmons

"The auction concept was intriguing because it provided a one-of-a-kind process that helped establish the true value of water in this area."

John Munderloh  
Water Resource Manager  
Town of Prescott Valley

## New Ideas

# Prescott Valley Effluent Auction

Like many other communities in the fast-growing but thirsty Southwest, the Town of Prescott Valley has looked for creative ways to meet the water needs of an expanding population while reducing its reliance on dwindling groundwater supplies. In just 30 years, the Town has gone from a community of less than 2,000 residents to a water-service population of more than 42,000. Current Town estimates project a growth rate of as much as 70 percent through 2025. At the same time, state water regulations require growth within subdivisions to be supported by a 100-year assured water supply from a source other than groundwater pumped within the AMA.

Two years ago, the Town began to pursue an auction concept to fund new alternative water supply projects, including the Big Chino pipeline project, by selling recharged effluent.

Effluent is treated wastewater which can be re-used directly but more typically is recharged back into the aquifer.

The October 2007 auction attracted both local and out-of-state bidders who competed in a written and oral auction process. In the end, 2,724 acre-feet of effluent interests were sold at a winning price of \$24,650 per acre-foot. This added up to a total yield of more than \$67 million over the term of the purchase agreement.

The winning bidder will be able to use or resell the effluent. In either case, the effluent interests must be put to use within the Town limits.

# New AMA-sponsored Programs

## Patch the Pipe— Leak Detection

The Prescott AMA sponsored a four-day training to teach local municipal staff how to operate ADWR's newly acquired leak detection equipment. Utility staff from the City of Prescott and Towns of Prescott Valley and Chino Valley attended the training. The equipment is available to them at no charge and is already being used to successfully pinpoint leaks.

ADWR staff has also received training and is prepared to assist the other AMA water providers with detecting leaks in their distribution systems. Please contact the AMA office for more information.

## AMA Newsletter

Distributed throughout the state, it's a quarterly treat that informs and educates.

## Arizona Rinse Smart

Fifty-three water efficient pre-rinse spray valves were installed in eateries throughout the AMA (each valve is estimated to save 50,000 gallons per year). An additional 50 valves will be installed in early 2008.

## Arizona Project WET Facilitator Network

Fifteen talented and dedicated locals were trained as Arizona Project WET Facilitators and are now tasked with promoting responsible stewardship through excellent and effective water education.

## Educator Workshops

Eighty-four local educators attended the six workshops held throughout the region. The workshops covered conservation, water quality, and Arizona water issues.

## Water Education Materials

The AMA office now has a variety of classroom-ready materials that are available for use by area water educators. To request a brochure, please contact the AMA office.



## 2007 & 2008 Calendar of Events

- DECEMBER 10, 10:00—GUAC, AMA OFFICE, PRESCOTT
- DECEMBER 19, 1:30—WAC, PRESCOTT VALLEY
- JANUARY 9, 4:30—CELEBRATION OF WATER EDUCATION FOR WET EDUCATORS, PRESCOTT
- JANUARY 16, 2:00—WAC, COTTONWOOD
- FEBRUARY 20, 2:00—WAC, YAVAPAI-PRESCOTT TRIBE
- MARCH 19, 2:00—WAC, SEDONA

Events listed are those that include ADWR participation and are relevant to the Prescott AMA. Event information is subject to change.

### GUAC—

Groundwater Users  
Advisory Council

### WAC—

Yavapai County  
Water Advisory  
Committee

### WET—

Water Education  
for Teachers

**CONSERVING WATER TODAY FOR ARIZONA'S TOMORROW**

## New Water Groups

Honestly, we could only think of the one.

## Local Drought Impact Group

**(LDIG)** Although the Planning Committee for the Yavapai County LDIG began meeting in 2006, it was not until 2007 that public meetings were held to unveil the idea of creating a Yavapai County-based group and ask for local participation. Considered by some to be the most active LDIG in the state, there are plenty of volunteer opportunities available. Please contact the AMA office to find out how you can assist with drought planning, monitoring and education.

For more information on the LDIGs, visit:  
[www.azwater.gov/dwr/drought/LDIG.html](http://www.azwater.gov/dwr/drought/LDIG.html)

## New Staff

**Daniel Timmons**, hired as a Water Resource Specialist for the Town of Chino Valley (see Get to Know... on page 2)

## New Appointments

**Jim Holt**, City of Prescott Water Resource Manager, appointed to the Groundwater Users Advisory Council for the Prescott AMA

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## Did You Know?

On May 22, 2007 Governor Napolitano issued a Drought Declaration (Executive Order 2007-10) to raise awareness of AZ drought and encourage conservation.

The declaration provides a mechanism for drought preparedness and response through the implementation of the *Arizona Drought Preparedness Plan* and action of the Local Drought Impact Groups.

The state is implementing proactive measures to limit the effects of the long-term dry spell and minimize the risk of a drought emergency situation. By creating a culture of conservation, we can greatly reduce the impacts of drought on our natural resources, our economy, and our quality of life.

In 2007, 14 state agencies reported a combined reduction of 640 million gallons of water used compared to 2004 consumption rates.

This represents a  
16% reduction!

## Not Highlights

In 2007, the AMA office sent eight advisory letters to water right holders for failure to meter properly; two for pumping more than the permitted volume associated with the wells; and one for pumping more than the annual allotment associated with the right.

The AMA office sent two citations for pumping over the permitted volume associated with the wells and three citations for failure to file an annual withdrawal and use report.